

B3
16. (Twice Amended) The [A] method as claimed in claim 1 which comprises filtering or removing [for the filtration or removal of] a hydrophobic water-immiscible liquid from a mixture of such a liquid with water.

17. (Twice Amended) The [A] method as claimed in claim 1 and which comprises retaining [for the retention of] transformer oil on a paper.

B4
19. (Amended) An [The use as an] absorbent of hydrophobic water-immiscible liquids which comprises a lignocellulosic [of cellulosic] plant material which has been rendered relatively more absorbent to hydrophobic water-immiscible liquids by esterification [chemical reaction] of hydroxyl groups in the lignin of the lignocellulose material.

Int. 52
20. (Amended) An article for absorbing hydrophobic water-immiscible liquids comprising lignocellulosic [cellulosic] plant material which has been rendered relatively more attractive to hydrophobic water-immiscible liquids by esterification [chemical reaction] of hydroxyl groups in the lignin of the plant material, and a covering material through which the hydrophobic liquid may pass provided around the modified plant material.

B6
22. (Amended) A sheet of lignocellulosic [cellulosic] plant material which has been rendered relatively more attractive to hydrophobic water-immiscible liquids by esterification [chemical reaction] of hydroxyl groups in the lignin of the plant material.